1	2	3
11.	Development of Jyotisar Village (Distt. Kurukshetra) under Rural Tourism Scheme	50.00
12.	Construction of Convention Centre at Surajkund (Distt. Faridabad)	108.00
	2004-05	
1.	Construction of Multipurpose Hall at Kingfisher Tourist Complex at Ambala	27.44
2.	Integrated Development of Surajkund as a Tourist Destination	81.37
3.	Landscaping/Beautification and Development of Badkhal Lake, Faridabad	146.05
4.	Preservation and restoration of old monuments at Yadvindra Gardens, Pinjore	403.69
5.	19th Surajkund Craft Mela, 2005	15.00
6.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project of Village Jyotisar in Kurukshetra Distt.	20.00

Development of Buddhist sites in Orissa

930. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that with an estimated seven million Buddhists dotting the South Asian countries, Orissa has a good potential for Buddhist Tourism;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to lack of infrastructure development around Buddhist centres, the State cannot exploit its potential; and

(c) if so, what is the action plan of the Centre to help the cash-strapped Orissa to develop Buddhist sites to improve its economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administration. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance for the tourism-related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has sanctioned a project for Integrated Development of Buddhist Circuit in Orissa to develop tourist facilities at Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri, Udaigiri and Langudi for an amount of Rs. 740.67 lakh during the year 2004-05 under the Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits Scheme.

Development of websites for tourism in States

931. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central financial assistance on 50:50 basis is given to State Governments/Union Territories as a part of their IT initiatives for developing their websites, networking, computerisation, procurement of multi-media projection system etc. in the interest of enhancing tourism in India;

(b) if so, the details of financial assistance provided to different States/ Union Territories during last three years; and

(c) how far this assistance has been utilised by them and its impact on the tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of financial assistance provided to different States/Union Territories during last three years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The IT assistance is sanctioned to different States to improve the networking system in their accommodation units, reservation systems and to host and upgrade their websites as a means of easy communication within and outside the country.